

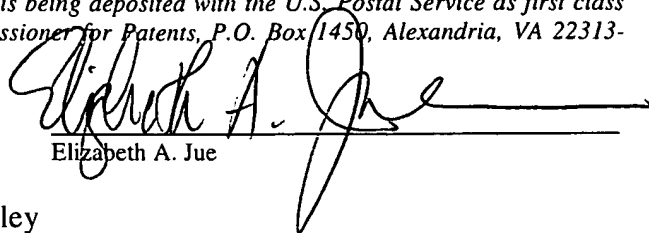
1FW



PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 12, 2004.*

  
Elizabeth A. Jue

Applicant : Laurence M. McKinley  
Application No. : 10/715,684  
Filed : November 17, 2003  
Title : NERVE ROOT RETRACTOR AND SUCKER  
  
Grp./Div. : 3761  
Examiner : Not Known  
  
Docket No. : 51013/RAW/M844

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND  
CERTIFICATION UNDER § 1.97(e)(2)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068  
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068  
July 12, 2004

Commissioner:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, and in accordance with the provisions in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure §§ 609 and 707.05(b), enclosed is FORM PTO/SB/08A/B with a listing of references that are known to applicant. Copies of each of the listed references are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that these references be considered in the examination of this application and identified on the list of references cited on the patent issuing on this application. Applicant also requests that an initialed copy of said FORM PTO/SB/08A/B be entered in the application file and returned to applicant with the next communication from the Office in accordance with MPEP § 609.


Applicant's undersigned attorney hereby certifies, in accordance CFR § 1.97(e)(2), that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information

**Application No. 10/715,684**

disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in Section 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

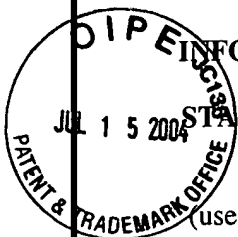
By   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rose A. Hickman  
Reg. No. 54,167  
626/795-9900

RAH/eaj

Enclosures: PTO/SB/08A/B w/references

EAJ PAS574030.1-\* -07/12/04 2:02 PM

FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01)  
Substitute for PTO-1449A/B



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE**

**STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

**Attorney Docket Number**

**51013/RAW/M844**

**Application Number**

**10/715,684**

**Filing Date**

**November 17, 2003**

**Applicant(s)**

**Laurence M. McKinley**

**Group Art Unit**

**3761**

**Examiner Name**

**Not Known**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (If Known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE
	1	1,621,212	03-15-1927	Myers
	2	4,049,000	09-20-1977	Williams
	3	4,715,071	12-29-1987	Henkin et al.
	4	5,123,403	06-23-1992	Lavyne
	5	5,902,315	05-11-1999	DuBois
	6	6,241,658	06-05-2001	Goodrich
	7	6,248,061	06-19-2001	Cook, Jr.

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T <sup>6</sup> (✓)

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EJ PAS574040.1-\* -07/12/04 2:13 PM

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.	

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

RAH/eaj